

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended): A method to prepare an expression profile of a tissue which method comprises the step of extracting RNA from an intact sample of said tissue cultured [[in]] using a three-dimensional collagen sponge-gel culture.

2. (original): The method of claim 1, which further includes subjecting said RNA to analysis to obtain expression data.

3. (original): The method of claim 1, which further includes converting the extracted RNA into cDNA.

4. (original): The method of claim 3, which further includes preparing labeled cRNA from said cDNA and

analyzing said cRNA using microarray analysis.

5. (original): The method of claim 1, wherein said tissue is tumor tissue.

6. (original): The method of claim 5, wherein said tumor is of the breast, lung, colon, liver, stomach, pancreas, prostate, head, neck, ovary, or brain.

7-9. (canceled)

10. (original): The method of claim 2, which further includes preparing a prognosis based on said data.